

HENRY STEVENS'S ALIBI UNDER FIRE

Detective Tells Of Quiz He Gave Mrs. Hall's Brother

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No, his only request was that he be allowed to consult his diary.
Q. He offered to show you his diary? A. Yes.

Fishing Party

Q. You questioned him later?
A. Yes, at the sheriff's office in Toms River, the night of his arrest.

Q. You asked him his religion?
A. I do not recall.
"I was fishing the night of September 14, 1922," Walsh read from Stevens's statement.

"At 9 o'clock I came in. I glanced at the evening paper, retiring at 11 p. m. I awoke at 6.30 a. m."

"In whose company were you?"

"I was alone, but I saw Arthur Applegate, George W. Johnson, William H. Edgar, Thaddeus Meilinger, William McGonigle and Mayor and Mrs. Van Camp of Lavallette."

In the statement Stevens also referred to the now famous "bluefish" weighing. Four years ago Arthur Applegate strengthened Stevens's alibi by telling investigators that on the night of September 14, 1922, Henry weighed a bluefish for him. According to Senator Simpson, Applegate is now uncertain as to the date of the incident.

Didn't Know of Affair

"Where was your car on that date?"

"In the garage."
Q. Can you drive a gear shift car? A. No.

Q. When were you in New Brunswick? A. The Saturday after the murder.

Q. Did you know of Mr. Hall's friendship with Mrs. Mills? A. I never knew there was such a woman.

Q. Did you ever threaten Mr. Hall? A. No.

Q. Where was Mrs. Stevens on the murder day? A. In New York. I joined her there on September 22.

Not Pistol Expert

Q. Mr. Stevens, have you a revolver? A. I have a number of rifles and shotguns.

Q. Are you considered an expert shot? A. Yes, with a rifle or shotgun.

Q. Can you handle a revolver? A. I have not fired one in twenty-five years.

The Stevens statement was signed by Walsh and Detective Sergeant Richard Burke.

Frank Barnhardt, brother-in-law of Mrs. Mills, whose wife testified yesterday, was called next.
"I heard Mrs. Mills in 1917 say that Dr. Hall measured up to her



MRS. FRANCES HALL

ideals as a man. She was very much in love with him."

Q. What else did she say? A. She said that Mrs. Hall had deliberately snubbed her, and that, while she had considered Mrs. Hall a very dear friend, she had turned out differently.

Q. When was that? A. The last time I spoke to Mrs. Mills before her death. She said then she had something that Mrs. Hall had never had—the love of Mr. Hall.

Henry Mills, brother of Jimmie, was called. Henry is a small man, with thin gray hair and beady eyes.

Gossip in Church

Q. How often had you heard gossip about Mrs. Mills and Dr. Hall at the church? A. For about two years before the murders.

"Whom did you hear talk this way?" asked McCarter.

"Lots of people. Among them was my own mother, Mrs. Jane Mills."

Henry admitted he had attended Dr. Hall's church once a month, and that his mother went there each Sunday.

Mrs. Mina Clarke, Sunday school teacher, accused as an accessory to the slayings through inciting the crime by tales carried to Mrs. Hall, did not appear when her name was called.

Neither did Peter Somers, a private detective, who worked for Felix Di Martini, Mrs. Hall's detective, four years ago.

Notes Destroyed

Anthony Silzer, the stenographer, finally appeared. As official stenographer of Middlesex county, he took down the state-

ments in 1922 of Mrs. Hall, Willie and Henry Stevens. His notes of Henry's testimony were destroyed, he said, but the transcripts of all were preserved.

Silzer, a brother of former Gov. Silzer, identified a typewritten statement handed to him by Simpson as Henry Stevens's statement in 1922 to Middlesex and Somerset county authorities.

He had not seen the transcript, he said under cross-examination, since the time he made it four years ago. He was not quite clear who examined Stevens, but thought Azariah Beekman, late prosecutor of Somerset county, was present, with a number of detectives.

Lawyers Wrangle

Case attempted to have the witness testify that the authorities directed only certain of Stevens's answers to be taken down. Silzer said he understood the statement to be a voluntary one and complete.

While defense lawyers were examining the alleged statement, Simpson aroused the ire of Senator Case by offering for identification the folder in which Silzer kept the typewritten pages.

Francis L. Bergen, Somerset prosecutor, read the statement. In it Stevens told the now well known story of fishing in Lavallette the Thursday night of the murder, never leaving the vicinity of his home.

The first he knew of Dr. Hall's death was a telegram Saturday from Edwin Carpender. His first knowledge of the manner of death came when he read a New Brun-



MILLIE OPIE

wick newspaper on his way to his sister after the bodies had been found.

Stevens had not known of Mrs. Mills's existence, he told the 1922



WILLIE STEVENS

investigators. Nor had he fired an automatic revolver for years. He was familiar with shotguns and rifles, however. He was of the opinion that the three shells shown to him as the Hall-Mills death bullets were fired from the same gun.

Cedric Paulus, Mr. Hall's chauffeur; Ferd David, Middlesex county detective, and Samuel Sutphen, Somerville undertaker, were called, but failed to appear.

Simpson was gathering up the loose ends of his case. It was apparent that he had no hidden "aces" to flash on the defense, and was almost stalling for time.

Dr. Otto Schultze of the New York Medical Examiner's staff, who performed the recent autopsies, was asked by Simpson:—

"You saw Dr. Hall's body. What would you say was the necessity of burying it that Monday?"

No Need of Haste

"There would have been no need of haste. I have known bodies to be kept for a month or more."

Senator Case compared the speed of decomposition between humans and animals after death.

Dr. Schultze admitted he knew nothing of the weather conditions to which the bodies had been exposed from Thursday until Saturday.

Peter Somers, who worked for Felix Di Martini four years ago, was called.

Q. Were you hired by Di Martini four years ago? A. I was.

Q. Where did you make reports to him? A. At the Pennsylvania station, New Brunswick, and by telephone to New Brunswick, 74.

The phone number mentioned by Somers is the private telephone in the Hall home.

Said He Hadn't Fired Revolver In 25 Years

Q. What were your duties? A. To loiter in poolrooms and cigar stores and to run down information offensive to Mrs. Hall.

Q. Where? A. In New Brunswick.

Q. How often did you telephone to Di Martini at the Hall home? A. Several times a week.

Q. Did you ever make a direct report to Mrs. Hall or to Mr. Pfeiffer? A. I did not.

Mrs. Hall looked Senator Simpson squarely in the eye as the fiery little prosecutor shook an accusing finger at her and said:—

"This woman hired Di Martini, he lived in her house, and he was hired, not to reveal, but suppress evidence."

At this point court adjourned for noon recess.

Bans Stereopticon

After recess the defense protested against the setting up of the stereopticon machine and as the jury fled in, Nathaniel Palzer, one of the Hall-Stevens lawyers, stationed himself in front of it to block pictures the operators were using to test the apparatus.

Justice Parker announced that the stereopticon must be removed because of defense's objections. Senator Simpson was absent from the courtroom when this ruling was made.

Peter Somers, private detective, who testified this morning to the activities of Felix Di Martini, was then recalled.

Q. How long did you work on this case. A. From September to Christmas.

Q. Why did you call Di Martini nightly at the Hall house? A. He told me to.

Q. Did you do any other work? A. I was sent to the Mack Motor Company at New Brunswick. I mentioned the name of a Mr. Mathews and got a position. I was placed near Fred Barnhardt, Mrs. Mills's brother, and a man named Gibson or Easton. My instructions were to get in a conversation with Mr. Gibson and see what he had to say about Mrs. Gibson and try to break down her story.

Mrs. Mary Demarest was then recalled to the stand.

4 MINERS KILLED

MOUNDSVILLE, W. VA., Nov. 16.—Three miners and a boy were killed, two men were injured seriously and one entombed by a gas explosion in the 1st Street mine of the Glendale Gas Coal Company here.

THE HALL-MILLS CASE

A DAILY PICTURE STORY OF THE MYSTERIOUS JERSEY TRAGEDY

WATCH FOR TOMORROW'S INSTALLMENT



A telephone message from a woman, believed to be Mrs. Mills, sent Dr. Hall on his errand of death, according to Barbara Tough (left), one-time maid in the luxurious Hall home.



No little interest centers around Mrs. Minna Clark, depicted as a "love spy," who had a key to Dr. Hall's study.



Death threatened to snatch Mrs. Jane Gibson, the "pig woman," from her role as chief witness for the state when she became ill and had to be taken to a hospital by two stalwart detectives who had been closely guarding her.



Mrs. Louise Geist Riehl's testimony concerning that mysterious telephone call which preceded the double murder on the old Phillips Farm, on the outskirts of New Brunswick, startled prosecution.